AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-25 (Cancelled)

26. (Currently Amended)

A child-resistant package that includes:

a container having a cylindrical finish with an open end, at least one external thread and at least one external lug separate from said at least one external thread and projecting radially outwardly from said finish adjacent to an end of said thread remote from said open end, and

a closure having a base wall, a skirt with at least one internal thread for engagement with said at least one external thread on said finish, at least one internal lug on said skirt adjacent to an end of said internal thread remote from said base wall, and at least one spring element for engaging said open end of said finish to bias said closure axially of said finish,

said at least one external lug on said container finish having an axially oriented cam face that slopes in a clockwise direction away from said open end,

said at least one internal lug on said closure skirt having an axially oriented cam face that slopes toward said base wall such that threading said closure onto said finish in a clockwise direction causes said at least one internal lug on said skirt to cam axially away from said open end relative to said at least one external lug on said finish by compression of said at least one spring element,

wherein said at least one internal lug on said finish has a flange that extends circumferentially in a clockwise direction from a surface of said at least one internal lug adjacent to said open end, and

wherein said closure skirt has a stepped profile that includes a first portion on which said at least one internal thread is disposed and a second portion stepped radially outwardly from said first portion and having an inner diameter larger than that of said first portion on which said at least one internal lug is disposed.

27. (Cancelled)

28. (Currently Amended)

The package of claim 26 wherein said closure includes ~~a second~~ at least one other internal lug on said skirt that is axially aligned with said at least one external lug on said container finish when said closure is fully received on said container finish so that said ~~second~~ at least one other internal lug engages said at least one external lug on said container finish to limit clockwise rotation of said closure relative to said container finish.

29. (Currently Amended)

The package of claim 28 wherein said flange includes a generally planar surface facing away from said open end, and said at least one internal lug on said skirt has a complementarily oriented surface adapted to be received closely adjacent to said generally planar surface of said flange to inhibit axial displacement of said at least one internal lug on said skirt in a direction toward said open end of said container finish.

30. (Currently Amended)

A closure for a child-resistant package, including:

a base wall,

a skirt with at least one internal thread adapted for engagement with at least one external thread on a container finish,

at least one pair of internal lugs on said skirt spaced from said at least one internal thread and extending radially inwardly from said skirt, with one of said internal lugs having an axially oriented cam face that slopes toward said base wall, and

at least one spring element carried by one of said base wall [[and]] or said skirt,

said at least one pair of internal lugs on said skirt including a first lug for cooperating with a stop lug on [[a]] the container finish to prevent unthreading of said closure from [[said]] the container finish absent pressure on said closure against said spring element to push said first lug on said skirt beneath the stop lug on the container finish, and a second lug circumferentially spaced from said first lug for cooperating with the stop lug on the container finish to limit the threading of [[the]] said closure onto the container finish,

wherein said closure skirt has a stepped profile that includes a first portion on which said at least one internal thread is disposed and a second portion stepped radially outwardly from said first portion and having an inner diameter larger than that of said first portion on which said internal lugs are disposed

wherein said first lug includes an axially oriented cam face that slopes toward said base wall such that threading said closure onto the container finish causes said first lug on said closure skirt to cam axially away from an open end of the container

finish relative to the stop lug on the container finish by compression of the spring element.

31. (Currently Amended)

The closure of claim 30 wherein the first lug has a stop surface facing one direction and the second lug has a stop surface facing generally in the opposite direction of said one direction so that the stop lug limits ~~lugs limit~~ rotation of the closure in opposite directions.

32. (Original)

The closure of claim 31 wherein the stop surface of the first lug faces counterclockwise and the stop surface of the second lug faces clockwise.

33. (Currently Amended)

The closure of claim 30 wherein said ~~first lug has a cam surface extending~~ cam face extends circumferentially and is inclined axially.

34. (Currently Amended)

The closure of claim 30 wherein said ~~first lug has a cam surface extending~~ cam face extends circumferentially and is inclined radially.

35. (Original)

The closure of claim 30 wherein said at least one spring element includes a plurality of circumferentially spaced spring segments, each spring segment being

cantilevered to at least one of the base wall and the skirt and having a free end that is flexible and resilient.

36-39. (Cancelled)

40. (Currently Amended)

A child-resistant package that includes:

a container having a cylindrical finish with an open end, at least one external thread, and at least one external lug separate from said external thread and disposed on a side of said external thread opposite said open end, and

a closure having a base wall, and a skirt with at least one internal thread for engaging said at least one external thread on said finish, a spring element for urging said closure away from said finish, and at least one pair of internal lugs separate from said internal thread,

said at least one pair of internal lugs on said skirt being adjacent to but circumferentially spaced from each other, and being comprised of a trailing internal lug and a leading internal lug disposed clockwise of said trailing internal lug as viewed from above said package,

there being one pair of internal lugs on said skirt for each external lug on said finish, said leading internal lug having [[a]] an axially oriented cam face sloping toward said base wall such that threading said closure onto the container finish causes said leading internal lug on said closure skirt to cam axially away from the open end of the container finish relative to said external lug on said container finish by compression of the spring element such that ~~for camming~~ said leading internal lug cams over said external lug as said

closure is threaded onto said finish against a force supplied by said spring element to said finish until said external lug on said finish is received between said at least one pair of internal lugs on said skirt and said trailing internal lug on said skirt engages said external lug to prevent further threading of said closure onto said finish,

removal of said closure from said finish requiring urging said closure onto said finish against the force of said spring element until said leading internal lug on said skirt is disposed beneath said external lug and permits unthreading of said closure from said finish,

wherein said external lug on said finish has a cam face that is inclined away from said open end for engagement by said cam face of said leading internal lug on said skirt to pull said closure against said spring element as said closure is threaded onto said finish and said leading internal lug is cammed over said external lug, and

wherein said external lug includes a body and a flange circumferentially extending from said body away from said cam surface and disposed so that said leading internal lug on said skirt will be received in a pocket formed between said body and said flange.

41. (Previously Presented)

The package set forth in claim 40 wherein said spring element and said closure are of one-piece integrally molded plastic construction.

42. (Previously Presented)

The package set forth in claim 41 wherein said spring element is a circumferentially segmented annular spring element.

43 - 47. (Cancelled)

48. (Previously Presented)

The package set forth in claim 40 wherein spacing between said leading and trailing internal lugs is insufficient to permit passage of said external lug between said internal lugs.

49-50. (Cancelled)

51. (Currently Amended)

~~The package set forth in claim 50~~ A child-resistant package that includes:

a container having a cylindrical finish with an open end, at least one external thread, and at least one external lug separate from said external thread and disposed on a side of said external thread opposite said open end, and

a closure having a skirt with at least one internal thread for engaging said at least one external thread on said finish, a spring element for urging said closure away from said finish, and at least one pair of internal lugs separate from said internal thread,

said pair of internal lugs on said skirt being adjacent to but circumferentially spaced from each other, and being comprised of a trailing internal lug and a leading internal lug disposed clockwise of said trailing internal lug as viewed from above said package,

there being one pair of internal lugs on said skirt for each external lug on said finish, said leading internal lug having a cam face for camming said leading internal lug over said external lug as said closure is threaded onto said finish against a force supplied

by said spring element to said finish until said external lug on said finish is received between said internal lugs on said skirt and said trailing internal lug on said skirt engages said external lug to prevent further threading of said closure onto said finish,

removal of said closure from said finish requiring urging said closure onto said finish against the force of said spring element until said leading internal lug on said skirt is disposed beneath said external lug and permits unthreading of said closure from said finish,

wherein said external lug on said finish has a cam face that is inclined away from said open end for engagement by said leading internal lug on said skirt to pull said closure against said spring element as said closure is threaded onto said finish and said leading internal lug is cammed over said external lug,

wherein said external lug includes a body and a flange circumferentially extending from said body away from said cam surface and disposed so that said leading internal lug on said skirt will be received in a pocket formed between said body and said flange,

wherein said leading internal lug on said skirt has a cam face to engage said external lug as said closure is applied to said finish, and

wherein said cam face faces radially outwardly such that engagement of said cam face with said external lug circumferentially stretches said closure skirt.

52. (Cancelled)

53. (Currently Amended)

A child-resistant package that includes:

a container having a cylindrical finish with an open end, at least one external thread, and at least one external lug separate from said external thread and disposed on a side of said external thread opposite said open end, and

a closure having a base wall, and a skirt with at least one internal thread for engaging said at least one external thread on said finish, a spring element for urging said closure away from said finish, and at least one pair of internal lugs separate from said internal thread,

said at least one pair of internal lugs on said skirt being adjacent to but circumferentially spaced from each other, and being comprised of a trailing internal lug and a leading internal lug disposed clockwise of said trailing internal lug as viewed from above said package,

there being one pair of internal lugs on said skirt for each external lug on said finish, said leading internal lug having [[a]] an axially oriented cam face sloping toward said base wall such that threading said closure onto the container finish causes said leading internal lug on said closure skirt to cam axially away from the open end of the container finish relative to said external lug on said container finish by compression of the spring element such that ~~for camming~~ said leading internal lug cams over said external lug as said closure is threaded onto said finish against a force supplied by said spring element to said finish until said external lug on said finish is received between said at least one pair of internal lugs on said skirt and said trailing internal lug on said skirt engages said external lug to prevent further threading of said closure onto said finish,

removal of said closure from said finish requiring urging said closure onto said finish against the force of said spring element until said leading internal lug on said skirt is disposed beneath said external lug and permits unthreading of said closure from said finish,

wherein said closure skirt has a stepped profile that includes a first portion on which said at least one internal thread is disposed and a second portion stepped radially outwardly from said first portion and having an inner diameter larger than that of said first portion on which said internal lugs are disposed.